

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-24 are pending. Applicants elect with traverse Group I (claims 1-16) for examination on the merits. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute non-elected subject matter in a further patent application.

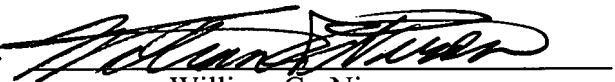
The Examiner is thanked for finding that the applicant has claimed different patentably distinct inventions (i.e., no one of which is made "obvious" in view of the others whether taken singly or in combination under 35 U.S.C. §103). In response to that restriction requirement, applicant respectfully requests modification of the requirement to include claim 17 in the Group I claims (presently comprising claims 1-16) because claim 17 is directed toward a game system which comprises a plurality of the connected game apparatuses (terminal devices) set forth in claim 1. Applicant also hereby provisionally elects Group I for further substantive examination in the present application. The remaining non-elected claims, 18-24 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer vis-à-vis a subsequent timely filed continuing/divisional application.

Applicants earnestly solicit an early and favorable examination on the merits. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if any further information is required.

Respectfully submitted,

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